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Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture

70 STATE STREET.

BOSTON, 9 December 1902.

SIR:—

The increasing damage to shade and fruit trees in this State by leaf-eating insects, such as the elm-tree beetle, the brown tail moth, the gypsy moth, and the tussock moth, has become a serious matter. In nearly all parts of the State shade trees, often the growth of many years, are being seriously injured, and sometimes killed by these pests. If our trees are to be preserved, intelligent and persistent work is necessary. The time to prepare for this work is now, while the insects are dormant, and not in the spring after they have begun to feed.

That the people of the State may fully understand the danger which threatens their trees, and may be prepared to meet it effectively, the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture have arranged for fifty public lectures, illustrated by the stereopticon. Under this arrangement, during the months of January, February and March, 1903, the services of a lecturer and lantern operator will be furnished free to any town or city which will agree to pay their travelling and hotel expenses during the time actually devoted to the city or town. The lectures will be of a popular nature, and slides will be shown of the common shade and fruit tree insects, spraying outfits, nozzles, etc., and in each town particular attention will be given to the insects particularly injurious in that town. Applications for lectures will have attention in the order in which they are received.

That these lectures may obtain the attention the importance of the subject demands, it is suggested that you confer concerning them with the tree warden of your town, with members of village improvement and other societies, and with other public-spirited men and women, that general attention may be drawn to these lectures, and the necessity for prompt and energetic measures for the destruction of injurious insects.

All communications should be addressed to FRANCIS H. APPLETON, Secretary, 70 State Street, Boston.

CHARLES S. SARGENT, *President.*
FRANCIS H. APPLETON, *Secretary.*